

# Washington State Patrol Media Release

**Chief John Batiste**

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**\*\*\*For Immediate Release\*\*\***

**Date: February 14, 2005**  
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**\*\*\*Photo attached**

**\*\*\*Note to media:** A WSP Pool video is available from the swearing in ceremony with Governor Gregoire and Chief Justice Alexander. If you would like a copy of the video, call 360-753-5642.

## **NEW WSP CHIEF SWORN IN TODAY**

This morning at a ceremony in Olympia, Chief John Batiste was [sworn in](#) as the 21<sup>st</sup> Chief of the Washington State Patrol. With his wife and daughter at his side, Chief Batiste was sworn in by State Supreme Court Justice Gerry Alexander while Governor Christine Gregoire presided.



“Wherever and whenever I went around the state, I heard Chief Batiste’s name constantly, Governor Gregoire said. “ He has the highest level of integrity, is highly regarded by everyone and is a constant advocate for the Patrol. As a former trooper who worked his way up the ranks of the Patrol, he knows the agency inside and out. I thought if I could get this gentleman to head the patrol it would be great for the organization. I am delighted he accepted my offer,” she said.

“To lead the State Patrol has been a dream of mine,” Chief Batiste commented following his swearing in ceremony. “I am so proud of all the hard work of each and every employee and the public safety successes the WSP has had over the recent years. I am looking forward to moving ahead to continue this excellence, focusing on people and on trust,” he said.

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